At page 25, lines 4-6, please replace the abstract with -- The present invention provides methods for identifying compounds which modulate the activity of MSH5.--.

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In the claims:

Please cancel claims 1-12 and 15-21 without prejudice and amend claim 14 as follows:

14. (Amended) The method of claim 13, wherein said compound inhibits the activity of MSH5 [is inhibited].

Please add new claims 22-29 as follows:

- 22. The method of claim 14, wherein said compound is a contraceptive agent.
- 23. The method of claim 13, wherein said compound is capable of modulating MSH5 expression.
- 24. The method of claim 23, wherein said compound is an antisense MSH5 nucleic acid molecule.
 - 25. The method of claim 13, wherein said compound is a small molecule.
 - 26. The method of claim 13, wherein said compound is an MSH5 antibody.
 - 27. The method of claim 13, wherein said compound is a peptide.
 - 28. The method of claim 13, wherein said compound is a peptidomimetic.
- The method of claim 13, wherein said compound has an effect on an MSH5 substrate.